

Sonoma Valley Groundwater

Implementation

- Enhance Recharge (Increase Water in Aquifer)
- Reduce Demand for Groundwater
- Increase Conservation
- Monitor to Understand Groundwater throughout the Valley

October 2007

Focus on Implementation as Groundwater Plan Moves Towards Adoption

The Basin Advisory Panel will consider recommending the Sonoma Valley Groundwater Management Plan for adoption at its October 22 meeting. Recent discussions on the document—the first such plan developed collaboratively among stakeholders in the region—have focused on implementation steps highlighted below.

The plan focuses on and is organized around the central commitment of all stakeholders to work collaboratively to protect, enhance, and manage the Sonoma Valley groundwater basin in an environmentally and economically sustainable and equitable manner as a resource for all beneficial uses. The Panel has identified four areas for implementation critical to achieve this goal.

Recharge—Efforts to preserve and enhance the flow

of water back into the groundwater basin; immediate priorities include groundwater recharge area mapping, and pilot projects such as storm water recharge using temporary wet-season flooding on public land, creation of low-impact swales, trenches and dry wells, and groundwater banking

Water Quality—Protecting groundwater quality from pollutants and other forms of impairment; immediate priorities include developing and distributing guidelines for well construction and abandonment, identifying abandoned wells and developing a program to address potential concerns about contamination, and continued study of saline water intrusion

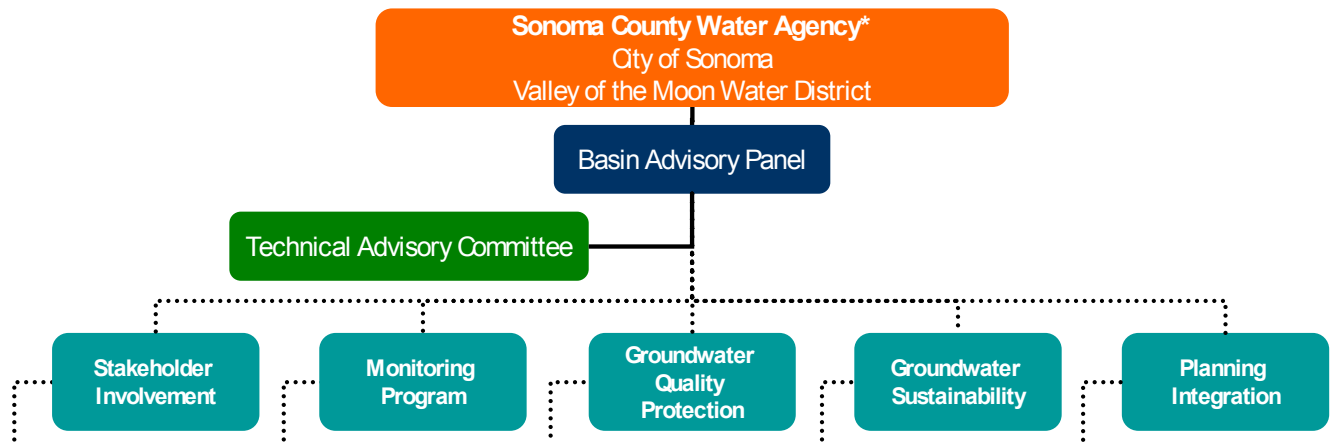
Demand Reduction—Conservation and other efforts to reduce pressure on

the basin from overuse; development of best management practices guidelines and conservation measures across all user groups as appropriate to supplement existing efforts and programs, pilot projects to assess and demonstrate storm water capture and reuse for irrigation, and pursuing opportunities to use recycled water for irrigation

Monitoring—Systematic science-based efforts to supplement current understanding and assess trends and potential challenges in the groundwater basin; immediate priorities include obtaining funding for additional monitoring wells, expanding on existing data sources and establishing a central data management function managed by the lead agency, and improved scientific modeling of the groundwater basin

Under the current proposal, the Sonoma County Water Agency will serve as Lead Agency for plan implementation in cooperation with the Valley of the Moon Water District and the City of Sonoma. These agencies will continue to participate as stakeholders on the Panel and will look to the Panel for advice and guidance on the implementation of the plan. Bill Keene will continue as Project Manager, on behalf of the Sonoma County Water Agency.





Sample Projects & Studies

Groundwater Protection

Pinpoint Groundwater Recharge Areas (Mapping)
Identify Salinity Sources & Distribution
Develop Well Owner's Guide
Survey Abandoned Wells

Recharge

Explore Conjunctive Use—Strategically using groundwater and surface water in cooperation depending on rainfall
Capture Storm Water for Re-Use & Recharge
Flood Public Lands Temporarily for Recharge

Demand Reduction and Conservation

Capture Storm Water and Use for Irrigation
Increase Landscape Irrigation Efficiency
Voluntary Conservation in Unincorporated Areas
Best Management Practices for Agriculture & Urban

Monitoring

Install Stream Gage on Sonoma Creek
Install New Multi-Depth Monitoring Wells
Improve Modeling / Projection Techniques

Basin Advisory Panel Members

Mark Bramfitt, Chair, SV Citizen Advisory Commission & Valley of the Moon Water District
Al Bandur, City of Sonoma Public Works
Katherine Culligan, West Valley Alliance, Residential Well Owner
Nicki DiMattei, Focus4
David Goodison, Sonoma Planning and Community Development
Clarence Jenkins, Madrone Vineyard Management
Ned Hill, Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance
Vicki Hill, Residential Well Owner
Jay Jasperse, SCWA
Krishna Kumar, Valley of the Moon Water District
John Macleod, Indian Springs Ranch
Lisa Micheli, Sonoma Ecology Center
Vickie Mulas, Mulas Dairy
Ed Nelson, Well Monitor
Pete Parkinson, PRMD
Kathy Pons, Valley of the Moon Alliance
John Robb, Mission Highlands Water Company
Leandra Swent, Southern Sonoma RCD
Maggie Salenger
Tito Sasaki, North Bay Ag Alliance

Meetings on the Plan

Nov 6, 11:00

**SCWA Board of Directors
Will Consider Adoption
at
County Admin Building
575 Administration Drive
Santa Rosa**

Nov 6, 6:30

**Briefing for
Sonoma City Council
Valley of the Moon Water District &
Supervisor Valerie Brown
at
Valley of the Moon Water District
Office
19039 Bay St
El Verano
Map at VOMWD.COM**

Schedule a Briefing for Your Organization

Basin Advisory Panel members, including Chair Mark Bramfitt, are able to conduct briefings for interested organizations. Please contact Mark at MJB9@pge.com or call Bill Keene at (707) 547-1922.